

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes amendments to FIG. 6. This sheet, which includes FIGS. 5-6, replaces the original sheet including FIGS. 5-6. A marked copy of amended FIG. 6 is also enclosed.

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REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to correct grammatical errors, employ more idiomatic English, and better conform to US practice. Fig. 6 of the drawings also has been amended to conform to US practice, i.e. cross-sectional views have been numbered rather than lettered. A Substitute Specification and marked annotated Specification, and a substitute drawing sheet containing Figs. 5 and 6 and a marked drawing sheet containing Figs. 5 and 6 accompany this Amendment. No new matter has been added by any of the aforementioned changes.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to better define the claimed invention and better distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. More particularly, independent claim 1 has been amended to specify that one or more of the first semiconductor laser elements is arranged on the heat radiating block in the manner where one electrode is in direct physical contact therewith. Support is found, for example in the paragraph bridging pages 11-12 of the original specification.

Turning to the art rejections, the rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) or, in the alternative, by Ouchi (US Patent Application No. 2003/0026303) is in error.

Independent claim 1, as amended requires forming on a heat radiating block, one or more first semiconductor laser elements in which an electrode is in direct physical contact with the block and one or more second semiconductor laser elements electrically insulated from said heat radiating block via a dielectric layer. Neither the AAPA nor Ouchi teach a semiconductor laser device, having one or more laser elements arranged on a heat radiating block in a manner where one electrode is in direct physical contact with the heat radiating block as required by

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Applicants' independent claim 1. Moreover, this distinction is more than merely academic and provides significant heat management advantages as discussed in the paragraph bridging pages 11-12 of Applicants' original specification. Thus, neither the AAPA nor Ouchi can achieve nor for that matter render obvious claim 1 or claims 2 and 3 which depend thereon.

The rejection of claims 5-16 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Uchisaki et al. (Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-011417) also is in error. Claims 5-16 are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1. The deficiencies of AAPA vis-à-vis Applicants' claim 1 is discussed above. Uchisaki et al. is similar to the AAPA in their configuration of the semiconductor lasers and insulating blocks. Thus, Uchisaki et al. does not provide the missing teachings to AAPA, and no combination of the AAPA and Uchisaki et al could achieve claim 1 or the several claims directly or indirectly dependant thereon. Thus, claims 5-16 also are allowable over the combination of AAPA and Uchisaki et al. New claim 17 which has been added to further scope the invention is allowable for the same reasons above adduced related to claim 1, as well as for it's own additional limitations.

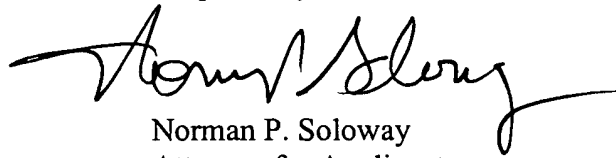
Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

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In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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FIG. 5

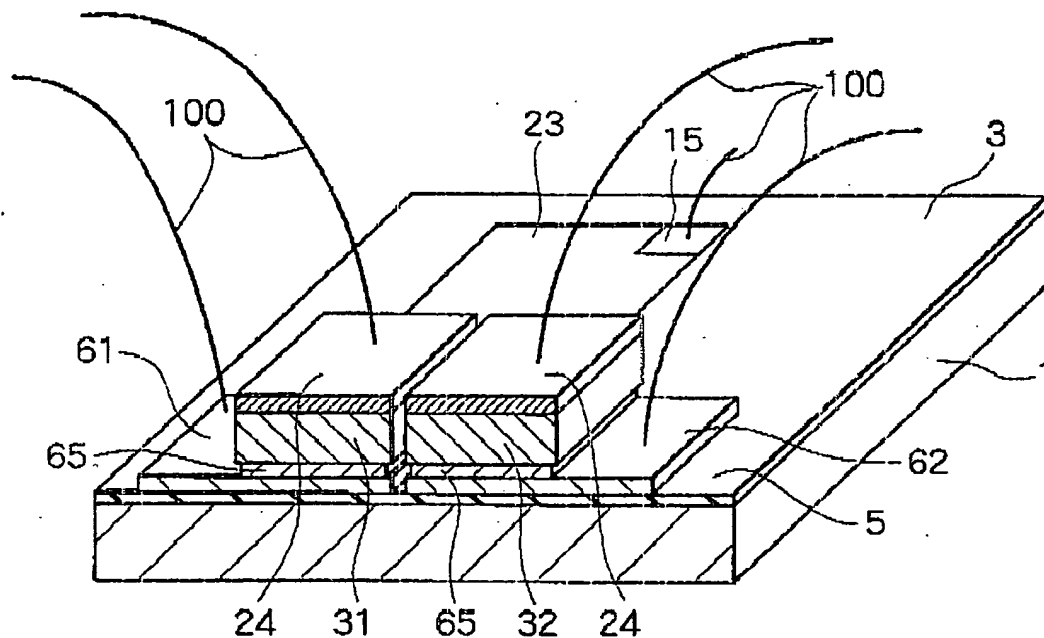


FIG. 6

